DMV NEWS RELEASE

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STATE NEW MOTOR VEHICLE BOARD ELECTS NEW TOP OFFICERS

SACRAMENTO—The California New Motor Vehicle Board has unanimously elected two Southern California men as President and Vice President of the quasi-judicial agency.

Frederick E. (Fritz) Hitchcock Jr. of Los Angeles was elected President of the board, and Glenn E. Stevens, also of Los Angeles, was elected Vice President. Hitchcock replaces Robert T. (Tom) Flesh, who served as president since December of 1999.

The New Motor Vehicle Board is composed of nine members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor. The two others are appointed by the Speaker of the State Assembly and the State Senate Rules Committee. The Board has independent authority to resolve disputes between franchised dealers and manufacturers of new vehicles. It also hears franchisor appeals from the final decisions of the Director of the California Department of Motor Vehicles.

Board President Hitchcock is chairman and CEO of Hitchcock Automotive Resources, which is headquartered in the City of Industry and is composed of six automobile dealerships throughout Southern California. One of the dealerships, Puente Hills Toyota, has been among the top sixty volume Toyota dealerships in America for more than two decades.

Hitchcock is also the Director of the Southern California National Automobile Dealers Association and has served as the Chairman of the American International Automobile Dealers Association. In 1988 and 1995, Hitchcock received the All-Star Dealer Award from *Sports Illustrated*, and in 1993 was awarded the Quality Dealer Award from *Time* Magazine.

Board Vice President Stevens has served on the board since March of 2000 and operates the Law Offices of Glenn E. Stevens, specializing in real estate matters. He is also counsel to Nelson Shelton and Associates, a real estate brokerage located in Beverly Hills. Stevens is a member of the Los Angeles

County Bar Association, the Beverly Hills Bar Association, the Beverly Hills Board of Realtors, and the National Board of Realtors.

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"Mr. Hitchcock and Mr. Stevens are both dedicated, super-qualified professionals," said Tom Novi, Executive Director of the New Motor Vehicle board. "They are two family men with very busy lives who are giving their expertise to the people of California by their service as officers on the New Motor Vehicle Board. We're truly fortunate to have them."

New Motor Vehicle Board members receive \$100 per day when performing official board duties.

The California Department of Motor Vehicles licenses drivers; maintains driving records; registers and tracks official ownership of vehicles and vessels; investigates auto and identity related fraud; and licenses car dealers, driving schools and traffic violator schools. The Department is under the Business, Transportation and Housing Agency, which is under Secretary Maria Contreras-Sweet. Additional information about the DMV is on the department's Web site at www.dmv.ca.gov.

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